



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Energy & Environmental Affairs

Department of Environmental Protection

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Lieutenant Governor

Matthew A. Beaton
Secretary

Martin Suuberg
Commissioner

August 12, 2015

Michele Leone
Mass. Electric Company d/b/a National Grid
40 Sylvan Road
Waltham, MA 02451

Re: **401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION – Amendment 1**
Application for BRP WW 07, Major project dredging
Application for BRP WW 10, Major Project fill/excavation
At: Gloucester Harbor, GLOUCESTER

401 WQC Transmittal No: X255073
Wetlands File No:
ACoE Application No NAE-2011-2017
Release Tracking Number 3-25126

Dear Ms Leone:

The Department has received a request for amendment, prepared by Anchor QES on your behalf, to the Water Quality Certification (WQC) referenced above. In specific, the request was to comply with Condition No. 4, modifications to permitted scope of work.

The proposed scope change is summarized as follows:

1. modifications to dredged material processing and disposal;
2. dredged material water management;
3. dredging/maritime Gloucester seawall stabilization;
4. active marine railway structure removal and replacement.

Dredged material processing and disposal

The support area for dredged material management located at 109 Rogers Street is eliminated. The dredged material will be loaded directly into scows and transported by tug to Clean Earth Dredging Technologies, LLC (CEDT), for stabilization with Portland cement. CEDT operates two licensed fix-base dredge material processing facilities in Kearny and Jersey City, New Jersey.

Dredged material water management

Instead of treatment at the support area, decant water will be collected from the dredged material scows and transferred to a barge-mounted water treatment system and will be treated in accordance with Condition No. 12 of the November 13, 2014 WQC.

The barge-mounted water treatment system is designed to treat the water from the suction (i.e. hydraulic) dredging operation in addition to the water generated from the mechanical dredged sediment. During transport of the scows to the CEDT facility, decant water and any weather-related moisture or ocean spray will be collected in storage tank(s) mounted on the sediment scows. Sediment will be kept dry as much as possible during transport, with periods of dry weather targeted, to minimize the volume of water collected in the storage tank(s). At no time will any shore-based water from Clean Earth's New Jersey sediment processing facility be pumped into the scow or the storage tank(s). Upon return to the site, the water collected in the storage tank(s) while in transit will be transferred to the barge-mounted water treatment system for treatment prior to discharge into the work area.

Dredging/maritime Gloucester seawalls stabilization

Instead of a row of eight steel piles with timber blocking extending along the toe of the Maritime Gloucester seawall, seven steel H-piles and steel plates will be installed with tremie concrete poured into the area between the plates and the existing toe of the seawall. Once dredging and backfilling have been completed, the excavation behind the seawall in the upland area will be filled with concrete and the granite blocks will be replaced. Four of the H-piles will be cut to the elevation -2 feet National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD 1929). The remaining three will be left in place to support a wooden walkway, which will provide public access to the waterfront.

Active marine railway structure removal and replacement

Instead of removing all or a select portion of the active Maritime Gloucester marine railway and the abandoned marine railway prior to dredging, a temporary cofferdam will be installed around the active marine railway at the Gloucester property and only a small portion of the active marine way will be replaced. Area inside the cofferdam will be dewatered to facilitate removal of contaminated sediment in the dry and able to leave most of the railway infrastructure remain in place. The dewatered effluent and seepage water accumulates within the cofferdam during dredging will be treated using the barge mounted treatment system and will discharged within the work area in accordance with Condition No. 12 of the November 13, 2014 WQC.

Plans included in the amendment request

S-21 (Sheet 69 of 104), Support of Excavation Plan and Sections, Maritime Gloucester Seawall, prepared by Anchor QEA, dated January 12, 2015

Plans Accompanying Petition of: Gloucester Maritime Heritage Center and Reconstruct Seawalls, Timber Piers, Floats and to Construct Temporary Cofferdam at 23-25 Harbor Loop in the Inner Harbor in Gloucester, Massachusetts.

Temporary Cofferdam Plan, sheet 4 of 13.
Temporary Cofferdam Section, sheet 12 of 13.

The Department has reviewed your amendment request and the scope change. In accordance with the provisions of Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act as amended (33 U.S.C. §1251 et seq.), MGL c.21, §§ 26-53, and 314 CMR 9.00, the Department determines there is reasonable assurance the project or activity will be conducted in a manner which will not violate applicable water quality standards (314 CMR 4.00) and other applicable requirements of state law and hereby approves this amendment in accordance with 314 CMR 9.09(2) providing that the following condition is met.

- Prior to commencement of the dredging activities, a narrative and schematic of the barge mounted water treatment system shall be submitted to the Department for review and approval;
- All work related to the amendment requested dated July 28, 2015 is under the supervision of a Licensed Sit Professional.

This letter serves as an amendment of 401 Water Quality Certification, DEP Transmittal No X255073. All other conditions of the license and Water Quality Certification remain in effect. Failure to comply with the Project's certification is grounds for enforcement, including civil and criminal penalties, under MGL c21 §42, 314 CMR 9.00, MGL c.21A §16, 310 CMR 5.00, or other possible actions/penalties as authorized by the General Laws of the Commonwealth.

If you have questions on this decision, please contact Ken Chin at 617-292-5893.

Sincerely,



Lealdon Langley
Director
Wetlands and Waterways Division

cc:

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cc:

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